

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

OF

METHODISM IN ENGLAND.

John Wesley born	1703	The rules of the societies were published, and entitled 'The Nature, Design, and General Rules, of the United Societies in London, Bristol, Newcastle-upon-Tyne,' &c May 1	1743
Entered Christ Church college, Oxford	1720	The first conference held in London, commenced June 25th; consisted of six clergymen and four lay preachers and lasted five days	1744
Ordained a deacon	1725	The band rules published, Dec. 25	"
Preached his first sermon in Oxfordsh.	"	Second conference, held in Bristol, commenced Aug 1st; and consisted of ten preachers. Subjects considered were, church government, justification, sanctification	1745
Elected Fellow of Lincoln college	1726	Third conference, in Bristol, May 13th. Present, eight preachers	1746
Received the degree of Master of Arts	1727	Circuits first mentioned this year. The following were the first: London, Bristol, Cornwall, Evesham, York, Newcastle, and Wales. Each was some hundreds of miles in circumference	1746
Ordained a priest	1728	Probably circuit stewards were now appointed	"
Name of <i>Methodist</i> applied by some students at Oxford University to Messrs John & Charles Wesley and to two others. These four formed the first Methodist society	1729	Ireland first visited by Mr Wesley, August 4	"
Mr Wesley embarked, as a missionary, for Georgia	1735	Mr Wesley married a Mrs. Vizelle: after 20 years disturbing, she left him, and died 1781	1750
The second Methodist society formed in Savannah	1736	Scotland first visited by Mr Wesley	1751
Mr Wesley returned to England	1738	First conference in Ireland. Seven preachers travelled there this year	1752
Convinced, through Peter Bohler, of unbelief, March 5	"	The form of renewing the covenant first used in the London society, Aug	1755
Formed third Methodist society	"	The yearly collection for contingencies commenced in the classes	1756
Obtained faith and assurance, May 24	"	Mr Fletcher first assisted Mr Wesley, March 13	1757
Preached his sermon on 'Salvation by Faith' before the Oxford University	"	Mr Chas Wesley ceased his itinerancy and settled in Bristol	1757
Left England for Hernhuth, in Germany, to visit the Moravian brethren, June 23	"	The twelve rules of a helper now first published	1763
Is assisted by Joseph Humphreys, the first of his lay preachers	"	'The Preachers' Fund' instituted for relieving old and sickly preachers, or the widows and children of preachers	"
Preached first in the open air in England, near Bristol, to about 3000 persons, April 2	1739	Minutes of conference now first published	1765
Began his itinerancy this year	"	This year there were 40 circuits, 104 preachers, and 25,911 members	1767
Laid the first stone of the first Meth. preaching house, in Bristol, May 12	"	Quarterly fasts first appointed	"
Preached in Blackheath, June 14th, to 12,000; and on the 27th, on Kennington Common, to 15,000 persons	"	Dr. Coke unites with Mr. Wesley, Aug 13	1776
Opened the first Methodist preaching-house, called the Foundry, in London, Nov 11. [First house built in Bristol; first opened in London]	"	First volume of the Arminian magazine published	1778
Created Stewards	1739	The large hymn book published, dated October 20, 1779	1780
First hymn book published, entitled 'Hymns and Sacred Poems by Messrs J. & C. Wesley'	"	Adam Clarke admitted on trial	1783
The mothers society formed in London; which commenced the united societies. But coming after the preceding, it is also reckoned the fourth Methodist society	"	Deed of declaration executed, constituting 100 preachers 'The Conference of the people called Methodists,' February 28	1784
The first lay itinerant preachers were Thomas Maxfield, Thos Richards, Thomas Westall. These desired to serve Mr Wesley, and were employed by him in the beginning of	1740		
The societies divided into classes, and the office of class-leader instituted	1742		
Band meetings instituted	"		
Second hymn book published	"		
Quarterly visitation of classes begun in London; and tickets, as marks of approbation, given to members, Mar	"		
First watch night in London, April 9	"		

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